THE NATION New York Edition

NATIONAL GUARDIAN
the progressive newsweekly

10 cents

Vol. 6, No. 20 NEW YORK, N. Y., MARCH 8, 1954

4,000,000 jobless; rate is rising fast

By Victor Perlo
(First of two articles)

OVER four million Americans—8% of all wage and salary workers—are now out of a job. The number is greater than it was in the winter of 1949; it has not yet reached the recession peak of early 1950; but it is rising faster now than in either 1949 or 1950. These facts emerge from conflicting government reports and arguments about unemployment statistics.

Statistics became important when the Administration used the 1930 Hoover method of denying the unemployed exist. Ignoring widespread layoff reports, the Census Bureau estimated only 2,359,000 jobless in Jan., 1954—a moderate figure for the winter season. The UAW and economist Sen. Paul Douglas claimed that this omitted many. Then the CIO pin-pointed 1,400,000 unemployed officially ignored. The United Electrical Workers (Ind.) resumed its independent estimates of unemployment with a figure of 4,071,000 for January.

ESTIMATES TOO LOW: To salvage their statistics the Census Bureau issued a revised estimate of 3,087,000 January unemployed. This is still far too low. Usually Census estimates are double the reported number of continued claims for state unemployment insurance. In the week ending Feb. 6 that number reached 2,128,000, indicating about 4,250,000 jobless on the prior Census basis—which at best was incomplete. With under 50 million wage or salary workers employed, total joblessness exceeds 8%, in addition to rising partial unemployment.

During the first six weeks of 1954 initial claims for unemployment insurance—a rough measure of new layoffs—approached 2½ million, around 15% more than in the corresponding periods of 1949 or 1950.

ACROSS THE NATION: In recent years unemployment has been localized mainly in areas of sick industries: Pennsylvania and W. Virginia coal towns, New England textile towns, some consumer-goods centers such as the New York City apparel industry. The pressure of declining jobs in these areas was relieved by migration to centers of rising war industry. This is no longer possible. Even the aircraft

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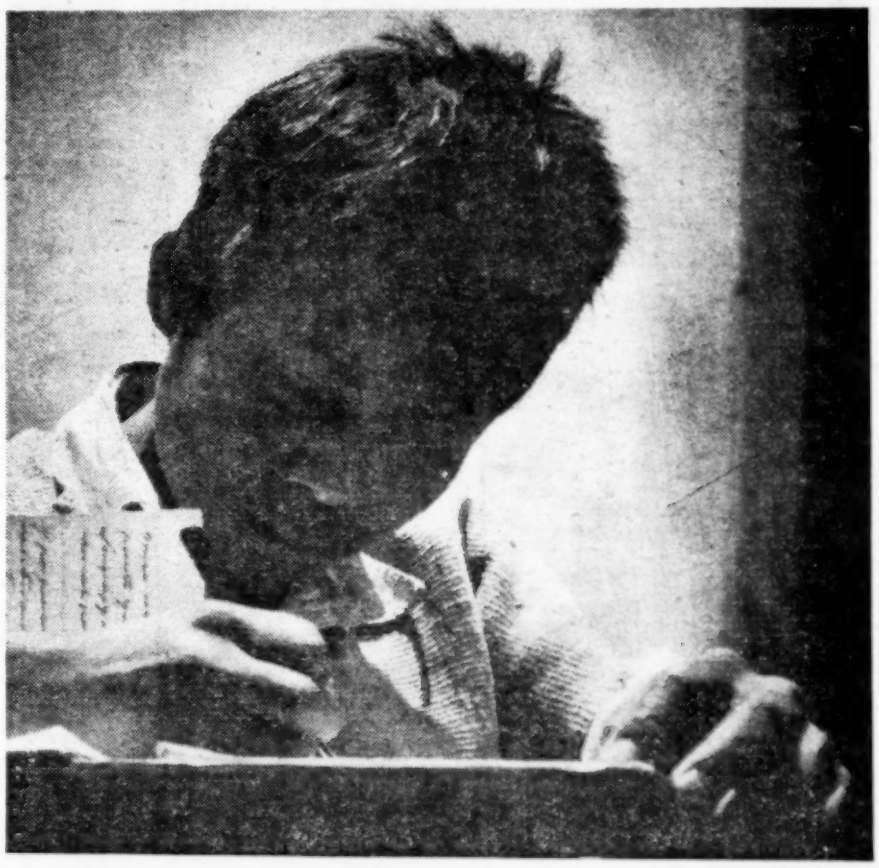

Photo by Roberts

Wanted: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness

The 165,000,000 hungry and exploited people of Latin America think it's time for a change—and Dulles & Co. are at the Caracas conference to explain how these "communist" nations should be squelched. This schoolboy in Chiapas, Mexico—whose Chamula Indian people are 99.5% illiterate and don't even have ox-drawn plows for their cornfields—has a pithy but impolite word for Dulles.

THE MEANING OF THE STEVENS ROW

McCarthy in boldest bid to seize power of GOP

By Lawrence Emery

AS USUAL, President Eisenhower was playing with a golf ball last week when Sen. Joe McCarthy made his newest bid for absolute power in the Republican Party which the President is supposed to head. The barnyard bully had a big week of showing off his muscles: first he flayed the skin off a much-decorated and highly-respected Army general, then he cuffed Secy. of the Army Stevens into what the Madison (Wisc.) **Capital Times** called a "sniveling surrender" and sat back to see what the President would do about it. On Thursday the President told his press conference he is in favor of fair play.

THE REAL PURPOSE: But while the President spoke softly, press and pulpit thundered. Even McCarthy backers seemed startled at the total lack of resistance in Washington to the Senator's arrogance. Typical was an editorial in the Detroit **Free Press** of the Knight chain of newspapers which have been friendly to McCarthy:

"It is a quarrel whose outcome will give this country full opportunity to see exactly who are the courageous and who are the cringers on Capitol Hill and in the Administration."

Walter Lippmann, highest-ranking newspaper pundit, saw McCarthy's immediate object "to show that even in the Army he is a bigger man than they are, and thus to expand his power by making himself feared." For the Senator's long-range object, he ruled out Presidential ambitions, saw him instead as

". . . a candidate for supreme boss—for the dictatorship—of the Republican Party. . . . His unconcealed purpose is to break and subdue the President and the Executive Branch of the government, the Republican Party in Congress, the national organization of the party. If any Republican still thinks that McCarthy's primary target is Communism and not the capture of the Republican party, he will live and learn differently."

CALL FOR RESISTANCE: Lippmann saw only one hope:

"His power will cease to grow and will diminish as and when, but only as and when, he is resisted, and it has been shown to our people that those to whom we look for leadership and to preserve our institutions are not afraid of him."

C. B. Baldwin, natl. secy. of the Progressive Party, wired Eisenhower:

"It is plain that the responsibility for this sorry spectacle rests squarely on you as the nation's chief executive and the leader of the Republican Party. It is you who can put a stop to Sen. McCarthy's threats to all individuals and groups in and out of the government whom he seeks to destroy. We call on you as the President to publicly and forthrightly repudiate McCarthy, his methods and his activities, and to ask the Republican leadership in the Senate to do likewise."

PERESS HOME STONED: Almost forgotten in the uproar was Dr. Irving Peress, Queens, N.Y., dentist whose

(Continued on Page 3)

Bill Mauldin in N.Y. Post

LATIN AMERICA

Guatemala is Dulles' main target at Caracas: here are the facts

By Kumar Goshal

WITH a swarm of advisers Secy. of Dulles flew last week to Caracas, Venezuela, for the tenth inter-American conference opening March 1. On top of his agenda was an "anti-communist" campaign aimed mainly at Guatemala.

A year of sustained hostility to Guatemala from Wall St., Washington and the U.S. press was recently climaxed by what the Arbenz Guzman government called a plot for its overthrow, involving its neighbors and "a government of the north." Although the Guatemalan government has merely launched some elementary social, economic and political reforms, the attack has followed the familiar pattern of calling it "communist-dominated."

In fact there are no Communists in the Cabinet, four in the 56-member Congress. The Labor (Communist) Party's simple program calls for "broadening the Agrarian Law," ridding Guatemala of "American monopolists" (N.Y. **Times**, 8/3/53). According to Flora Lewis in **NYT** (2/21), Communists have taken

". . . the arduous . . . dreary, menial . . . job of going out into the country to see to the needs of the forgotten peasants, the silent Indians, who lived more often than not in peonage."

PRESIDENT ARBENZ GUZMAN
His people stand with him

STIRRING THE BREW: Here is the story of the campaign against Guatemala as outlined in statements and press reports:

"[Suppression of the Guatemalan]

(Continued on Page 5)

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NATIONAL GUARDIAN
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Published weekly by Weekly Guardian Associates Inc., 17 Murray St., New York 7, N. Y.
Telephone: WOrth 4-3960.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: U. S. & possessions, Canada, Latin America, Philippine Islands, $3 a year. All other countries $4 a year. First class and air mail rates on request. Single copies 10c. Re-entered as second class matter Feb. 20, 1953, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

CEDRIC BELFRAGE, *Editor* — JOHN T. McMANUS, *General Manager* — JAMES ARONSON, *Executive Editor*

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Vol. 6, No. 20 — 178 — MARCH 8, 1954

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THE MAIL BAG

The 5th Commandment

BRONX, N. Y.

Should the Rosenberg children be raised in the spirit of the Commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother?" It is all too clear that there are those who believe and are determined to see to it that they should not be so raised, though the names and memory of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg are honored throughout the world; though tens and hundreds of millions see in them deathless martyrs to innocence, truth and love.

It must not be and it cannot be that this evil purpose can achieve success. Humanity will not allow it. The world owes too much to the Rosenbergs.

Lawrence H. Lehman

Cruelty to children?

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

The Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children has charged that Michael and Robert Rosenberg have been exploited for fund-raising purposes. Yet "polio poster children" are paraded around and heralded throughout the country by every means of communication for the admitted purpose of raising money, with no objection from the SPCC. In contrast, there has been the obvious attempt to keep the Rosenberg children away from the public eye—a concern and sincere effort to avoid notoriety so they could grow up to be "normal, healthy people." The SPCC is barking up the wrong tree. E. L.

Burning dead bodies

APPLEGATE, CALIF.

I still look back at the Harry Dexter White case and the buzzard parade over him long gone. It reminds one of John Wycliffe, described in Doubleday Encyclopedia as the "Morning Star of the Reformation. A zealous reformer of clerical abuses, he was finally regarded as a political anarchist. Died in 1384. In 1415 his remains were dug up and burned by the order of the Council of Constance."

This makes one not want to look at history and want to look forward to a time when men will be brothers—not brutes. Della E. Lonnem

China: no time for war

SHANGHAI, CHINA

War seems very far from the lives of the people here. Every day I listen to news reports from Tokyo and Taiwan. Once I tune in that radio, I seem to enter a never-never land of alarums and excursions intermingled with political harangues and news of cocktail parties given by the Gissimo and the Missimo for Japanese and American and Filipino dignitaries. And the talk of war, war, war, and how the mainland is to be recovered. . . . It was to be recovered positively by 1953, by the way.

Lately we slaves on the mainland have been living in a continual round of celebrations. We ate our way through two weeks of Christmas-New Year festivities; now Orthodox Christmas is upon us, with Shanghai's permanent Russian colony in gay party mood. At the end of January preparations start for Chinese New Year with my kids home from boarding school and college for three weeks. Hardly will that be over, when will start preparations for Ching Ming, China's big spring "Clear Bright" festival, and Easter and Orthodox Easter. We will hardly recover from all that, when May Day will be in the offing, and that means preparations for the young folks to parade all day, singing new songs and stay up all night dancing in People's Square.

Oh, there is some work and studying done between festivities, but as you see, the people have no time to think about war.

All the Chinese churches had special Christmas services, and the Messiah, which is presented every year. After a series of Christmas teas and dinners and a children's pageant at the French Club, and a big Carol Service at the Cathedral put on largely by the British colony, I heard on "Radio Free China," from Taiwan, that the Christians in Communist countries had to meet furtively in small groups in each other's homes, meet and disband quickly for fear of being pounced on by "government spies." Dorothy Fischer

How crazy can you get dept.

Sir: I found, 32 years ago, that some Bible commentators considered that the 38th and 39th chapters of Ezekiel referred to Russia. "I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal." They interpreted Meshech as Moscow and Tubal as Tobolsk. This was very curious as the Russia of 1901 was vastly different from the Russia of 1953. Should Russia strike down through the Middle East, as indicated in the 38th chapter, it would not surprise me in the least.

—"Voice of the People" column, Toronto Star, Nov. 25, 1953.

One-year free sub to sender of each item published under this heading. (Toronto sender of above did not give name.)

Relativity

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Some think of Ike (aside from fair or swarthy)
As Joe McCarthy's Charlie McCarthy.
Others consider Eisenhower (I suppose)
More of a von Hindenburg of Joe's.

Phil Hazen

For God's glory

LIVONIA, MICH.

This picture was taken Jan. 4 outside the Fort St. Presbyterian Church in Detroit while several

people gathered who wanted to be witnesses at the Rev. Claude Williams' trial for "heresy," but were turned away by the "Un-Presbyterian Committee."

I read in the National Encyclopedia: "In general, Calvinists have practised religious persecution for the glory of God."

Clara M. Vincent

Good luck, Leon Summit

MERRICK, L. I.

Severe personal and financial pressures force me to leave the GUARDIAN, and I take this means of informing the countless readers with whom I have had contact in the last five years. After all these years, leaving isn't easy. It entails considerable anguish. One doesn't sever a long association with something like the GUARDIAN without leaving a big hunk of himself behind. Whatever contribution I may have made since the GUARDIAN came into being has been generously repaid in personal satisfaction. Unquestionably, the GUARDIAN has had an influence far out of proportion to the number of its readers. In case after case, this paper has been the yeast which has brought about national and international ferment. We can all, I think, be proud of the contribution we have made toward resistance to the warmakers since 1948. I doubt I shall ever find a situation more rewarding. But now I have to find a means of earning a bigger paycheck to meet the needs of my growing family. The day I do, the GUARDIAN can count on another something-a-Monther.

Leon Summit

Germ warfare

NEW YORK, N. Y.

A letter in the N.Y. Times of Feb. 25, shows clearly the ignorance of American citizens about their Army's germ warfare activity.

In that letter the Rt. Rev. G. Ashton Oldham of New York says apropos of an article in the Times, Feb. 6, that it ". . . described the invitation to the Mathieson Chemical Corp. of Baltimore to manage 'three main germ warfare plants,' and stated as the reasons for their refusal to do so, 'the administrative and business problems involved and the mass destruction the weapon would create.' This last phrase would seem to indicate that 'ruthless' capitalism is here at least more considerate and ethical than the Government. . . ." He says this was the first intimation he had of such activity, expresses his horror of it, doubts the average American's knowledge of it, lays this perversion of conscience to our "leaders" only, and calls upon the people to repudiate it completely.

It is common knowledge around Camp Dietrich, Md., the germ warfare station, that the subterrain thereabouts is honeycombed with chambers storing an untold number of containers of germs designated for use against "other" peoples.

Two years ago I met a lonely, dazed and fearful soldier, then on convalescent furlough after release from a long stay in Walter Reed Hospital for rheumatic fever caught in the labs of Camp Dietrich. The doctors, after saying he was "cured," had warned him this fact was a military secret—that is, that he had caught it there. He told how he had engaged in germ warfare **in this country**, as one of a six-man team put into the HQ troops of a division on maneuvers, with the knowledge of only very few divisional officers, to try out the less dangerous germs on U. S. Army personnel, unknown to them.

Given unlimited germ warfare supplies, the use of germ warfare against our own troops, the Brass' contempt for "other" peoples, how could the Brass and their masters, our "leaders," fail to avail themselves of the golden opportunity of a Korea? After all we are told Korea was a good testing ground, as Spain was for Mussolini Italy and Hitler Germany. M. R.

Bedtime story for John F.

CHICAGO, ILL.

I heard on the radio that Dulles is planning to bomb China for aiding those who fight for their independence. On the radio, of course, you can only hear, you can't ask questions.

When I was a little girl, I heard talk about a peasant, who said: "If I go to war, I'll kill 2 or 3." "And what if you'll be killed?" he was asked. "Me! Why?"

Now it is 50-60 years later and I hear the same words; but this time not from a peasant; but from a statesman. L. P.

Guardian Records

MUSKOGEE, OKLA.

Enclosed is a dollar for one of the "Bill of Rights" 40-minute LP records. You should record as much as possible of all the various things advertised in the GUARDIAN. We in the provinces could partake of the New York festivities then. Los Angeles, Chicago, et al. should make records for Guardian Records. All at $1 each. I hope this is the beginning for greater things in records for us.

Just think what recorded lectures of, say, Scott Nearing, Paul Robeson, Howard Fast, Paul Sweezy, Leo Huberman, Cedric Belfrage, and everybody, with folk music, etc., etc., would do! They would sell like hot cakes! And, must not overlook congratulating you on the enlargement of the GUARDIAN. Tops!!! Raymond Rector

A plea for parole

NEW YORK, N. Y.

My husband, John Williamson, is now in the Federal Penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pa.; he was one of the 11 Communist leaders convicted under the Smith Act and sentenced to five years. He had also been arrested in Feb., 1948, for deportation to Scotland. His first application for bail was denied in Feb., 1953, even though at that time he stated that since his deportation order had been finalized by the Immigration Service while he was in jail, he would leave the country immediately if granted parole.

What ends of justice are being served by keeping him in jail when he has agreed to leave if paroled? His parole is up for reconsideration this month. Whether for the purely humanitarian reason that he should be reunited with his family (we have two young children), or on the ground of the importance of the fact that he will accept immediate departure at this time, may I urge GUARDIAN readers to write in the next few days to the Parole Board, Dept. of Justice, Washington, D. C., asking them to grant John Williamson parole for departure to Scotland?

Mae Williamson

Aleichem Sholom

WASHINGTON, D. C.

I have been quite unhappy for some time that I was not able to send you a contribution for 1954, due to an increase in our family, a decrease in income, plus our many Washington commitments.

However, last week I was lucky enough to see **Sholom Aleichem** in New York. I was so thrilled that I bought the record. I had some neighbors in last night for a Sholom Aleichem evening, complete with record, a reading and tea with lump sugar and raised my entire 1954 contribution.

Enclosed is my check for $12.

B. E.

In the tradition

BIDDEFORD, ME.

While in jail Vincent Hallinan will rewrite "Tongue of Gold in snake venom and vitriol," putting the "axe to the root" in true Connolly style. Three cheers for Hallinan! Mrs. Mary Averill

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Report from Washington: What progressives can do about Congress

By C. B. Baldwin

Natl. Secy., Progressive Party

All Congressmen and Senators are complete reactionaries. . . . There's nothing you can do to change their minds—or their votes. . . The government is completely controlled by Big Business. . . . Only another 1929-style depression will destroy its powers. . . . We progressives are the only honest people and we ought to try to get rid of the whole lot of the people in office.

HAVE you heard those before? I hear them all the time—and I'd like to try to answer them against the background of a week's visit in Washington with 20 or more Congressmen and Senators.

I spoke with these lawmakers (mostly Democrats, a few Republicans) about foreign policy, civil liberties, farm and labor problems. They put their views to me frankly. I came away with the feeling as many as 40 or 50 members of Congress are basically as good on these questions as any similar group during the New Deal period.

In almost every case, I gave the Progressive Party position on foreign policy, was highly critical of the whole trend of the Administration's foreign policy. The Congressmen responded in many ways—**but there was no defense of the policy.**

WHAT CAN WE DO? Most admitted it is a colossal failure. At least one Senator spoke sharply on the basis of first hand information from trips through Europe and the Middle East. They agreed too that the Democratic Party leadership was grievously wrong last year to pick as its major issue in Congress the fight against cuts in military spending and for a bigger air force. Many were sure this would hurt them at election time.

Obviously there is no peace or progressive bloc in either house. The Congressmen with whom I spoke felt the need for such a bloc. But they felt stranded, said they can't get support from other Congressmen unless the opposition which they feel exists to present policies is expressed much more vigorously. **They are getting very little mail of any kind on any issues—except for Big Business, whose lobby has never been more active.**

AFRAID TO REBEL: On other issues, some took an even stronger stand.

Herblock in Washington Post

"What does he think we are—Legislators?"

More troubled than anyone I've met in a long time about what's happening to our civil liberties was a young Congressman serving his first term. He spoke particularly of his concern over the wiretap and immunity bills. He would like to speak out on these issues but feels he needs more support from his district. He would like the assurance that his own constituents will support a stand he knows to be right. If he has this assurance he will not fear his own party censorship.

The strategy of the Democratic leadership is to soft pedal all criticism of the President, criticize some of his program (particularly farm), but in the main simply to drift in the belief that the party will be returned to power no matter what it does. The Congressmen with whom I spoke disagreed with this strategy but were reluctant to oppose it. It would be easy to condemn them for lacking courage; but for progressives there is a more constructive approach:

The present Congress, like others before it, includes moderates, people of goodwill and intelligence who would like to vote right—and will, if sufficient pressure is brought upon them by their constituents with assurances of support.

UP TO THE PEOPLE: It is crucially important—never was more so—to elect people like Vito Marcantonio to Congress. But we aren't going to have a House full of Marcantonios or a Senate full of men like George Norris, any more than we had in Roosevelt's day. **It was the militancy of the people that made the New Deal. It is the militancy of the people that will count today.**

Congress is not a closed corporation. The real issues must be fought out there. Take taxes: The Administration bill grants all concessions and exemptions to big business and the rich. But no less than 80 bills have been introduced in the House to increase personal income tax exemptions, 21 of them by Republicans. In the Senate, the ultra-conservative Sen. George of Georgia introduced Senate Bill 2983 to increase personal income tax exemptions and exemption of dependents from $600 to $800 in 1954 and $1,000 in succeeding years. This would mean a saving for millions of workers and farmers of almost $160 a year, and $320 for a family of four—equivalent to a wage increase of about 8c an hour in 1954, 16c thereafter. This bill could pass if sufficient pressure is brought to bear on Congress:

DON'T WRITE CONGRESS OFF: Another issue that can and must be fought is U.S. involvement in the Indo China War. Some Congressmen have already expressed their anxiety. Pressure from the people could force the government to revise its Far East policy, get out and stay out of Indo China.

Seafarer's Log, New York

"MISSION ACCOMPLISHED"

The Progressive Party is pressing for a Congressional resolution reaffirming the exclusive right of Congress to declare war. One Congressman indicated his intent to introduce such a resolution and his legislative representative and I discussed it at length.

Congress cannot be written off. New opportunities are opening for progressives to fight on issues if they will only take advantage of them. Writing letters to Congressmen should be a constant thing with us.

If people in each state would take the responsibility, call acquaintances—including non-progressives who will join with us on specific issues—their letters will get attention. They will have an important effect.

McCarthy

(Continued from page 1)

honorable discharge from the Army served as McCarthy's excuse for attacking the big brass. Peress revealed that last week-end "fascist hoodlums threw rocks through our windows, narrowly missing our children and endangering their lives." He also reported that since McCarthy had publicized his name, he has received 30 or more unsigned letters "overflowing" with anti-Semitic abuse. Said Dr. Peress:

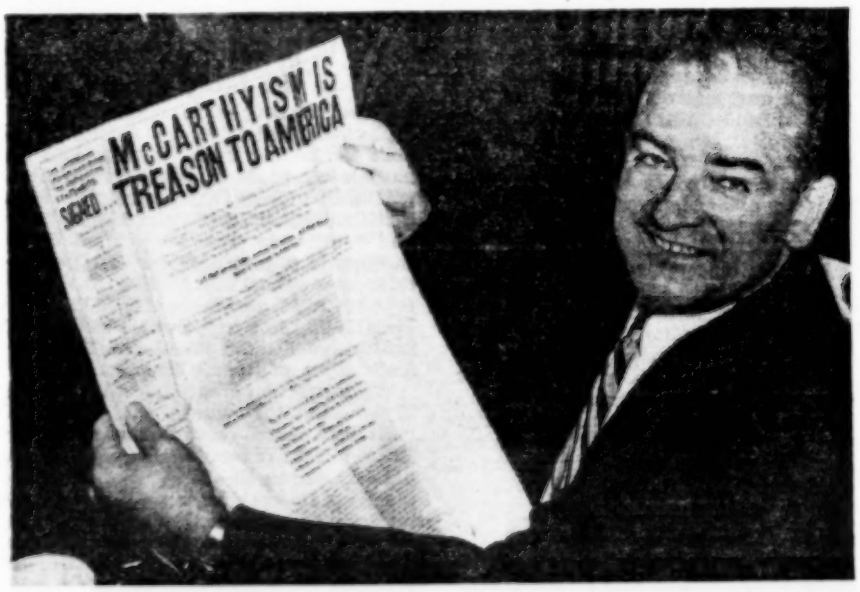
> "This comes from the self-styled 100 per cent loyal American, the super-patriots who, in the true tradition of the Storm Troopers of Hitler, crowned their efforts Saturday night with rocks thrown through the windows of my children's bedroom. This is the terror that stems from McCarthyism."

Earlier in a statement addressed to McCarthy himself Dr. Peress had said:

> "Another bit of schooling which I had as a Jew was the study of the Old Testament, which I highly recommend to you, Senator, and your counsel, and particularly Book VII of the Psalms, which reads:
>
> "'*His mischief shall return upon his own head.*
>
> "'*And his violence shall come down upon his own pate.*'"

GE SUSPENDS 7: Also largely overlooked was a McCarthy excursion, on Feb. 19 and 20, to Albany, N. Y., on the eve of contract negotiations between the independent United Electrical Workers and the General Electric Co. With officials of the GE plant at Schenectady occuping front row seats, McCarthy called on two informers to identify seven GE workers and active union members as seen at "Communist meetings."

The seven vehemently denied all McCarthy charges of "espionage" and "sabotage" and were backed by a crowded courtroom of GE workers. They invoked the Fifth Amendment against all McCarthy questions concerning their political beliefs or associations. On Feb. 28 the seven were suspended for 90 days, when they will be dismissed outright unless they "clear" themselves in the meantime.



THE WORDS ARE BIG, SIMPLE AND CLEAR

Joe displays reprint of a newspaper ad paid for by UE

UE president Albert Fitzgerald denounced the McCarthy technique as the newest wrinkle in union-busting, called McCarthy "a willing tool of the General Electric Co." and said "no politician in America has ever played a more despicable role." The Westinghouse Conference Board of UE, representing 20,000 workers, said:

> "The latest move of GE in its offensive against the conditions of its workers is to introduce McCarthyite political blacklisting. By a selective firing of active and militant workers, GE evidently hopes to terrorize its employes, deprive them of leadership, destroy their organization and render them helpless to resist the company's depression and profit-grabbing program."

AND A WIDOW TOO: Another incidental victim was Mrs. Annie Lee Moss, Negro widow employed in a clerical capacity in the Pentagon until the Senator named her as a loyalty "risk" in his war on the Army. Mrs. Moss was too ill to take the stand before McCarthy, but denied all charges through her attorney. Last week the Army announced her suspension.

As McCarthy was making his march to power, a lot of innocent bystanders were getting hurt. None of them seemed to rate the headlines.

Factory skunked

APPOMATTOX, Va., Feb. 28. (UP)—Rewards of $700 were offered today for information on the person who threw a live skunk through a window of the strike-troubled Appomattox Garment Co. The skunk wandered through the plant in fury after being tossed through the window Wednesday and spread his scent over $300,000 worth of textile stocks.

—N. Y. Times, Mar. 1.

Rosenberg children: 3 court actions

ROBBIE and Michael Rosenberg, sons of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, are living with their Grandmother Sophie in New York for the time being and going to the same school they attended when they were taken from their home with Abel and Anne Meeropol Feb. 18.

Three separate court actions were pending as the result of the City Welfare Dept.'s efforts to take custody of the two boys:

MARCH 5: A hearing was scheduled on a Welfare Dept. petition filed in Surrogate's Court. This seeks to appoint as guardian of the children and custodian of their "property" Morton L. Deitch, president of the Jewish Child Care Assn. Counsel for the children's interests were expected to seek a postponement.

MARCH 8: A hearing in Children's Court on the original complaint filed by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, at the instigation of the Welfare Dept. This charges that the children were being "exploited" and improperly cared for. As the result of this petition Judge Panken removed the children from the Meeropols' home and sent them to an institution.

MARCH 9: A Supreme Court hearing on a writ of habeas corpus to void the Welfare Dept.'s action before Judge Panken. On Feb. 21 Supreme Court Justice McNally granted a verbal request by attorney Alexander Bloch, father of the late Emanuel Bloch, that the children remain with their grandmother pending outcome of the action brought by the city.

The American Labor Party last week called on Mayor Wagner to direct the Welfare Dept. to "cease its shameful association with the persecution of the Rosenberg children."

WAR & PEACE

Why U.S. agreed to meet China at Geneva

By Tabitha Petran

OFFICIAL post-mortems on the Berlin Conference, begun amid "gloom, confusion, misgivings" (R. H. Shackford, N.Y. **World Telegram**, 2/24), showed the Western powers torn by disunity within. Shackford found (2/25)

> ". . . an incredible amount of wishful thinking. . . .Non-communist voices are still raised in behalf of 'another try' with the Russians. . . . All these voices oppose what should have been the main lesson of Berlin—to proceed with European unification, the European Army, German rearmament. . . ."

The mask of external unity cracked as conflicts among capitalist powers, muted during Berlin, blazed anew all the way from London across W. Europe and the Middle East to Southeast Asia. Violence erupting widely throughout the colonial and semi-colonial world reflected these conflicts and the growing opposition of their peoples to the stranglehold of imperialism. The ramshackle nature of Washington's alliance was becoming as patent as the growing menace of its globe-encircling "forward" A-bomb bases.

"SHADOW-BOXING": In the U.S., McCarthy's triumph blotted out Secy. Dulles' attempt to soothe the ire of Formosa-firsters at his agreement to meet with China at Geneva. But the Dulles approach to the China Lobby, if less obvious, was not very different

from that of the White House to the Lobby's leading spokesman. As Ludwell Denny wrote (**NYWT**, 2/22), the Administration-Congress debate over China's technical status at Geneva

> ". . . is largely shadow-boxing. [The fact is that] the Korean and Indo-China situations favor the Reds. . . . [Hence] there is grave danger of appeasement. Both the Administration and Congress want to prevent this. They cannot. The best they can do is modify it. The fact that the situation is partly beyond their control creates frustration and leads to debate over words rather than realities."

That Administration policy is to prepare war against China was reaffirmed Jan. 26 in testimony of Asst. Secy. of State Robertson before a Congressional subcommittee, released as Dulles returned from Berlin. Robertson agreed with Rep. Frederick Coudert Jr.'s (R-N.Y.) formulation that "the heart" of U.S. Far Eastern policy is

> ". . . a cold war waged under the leadership of the U.S., with constant threat of attack against Red China, led by Formosa and other Far Eastern groups and militarily supported by the U.S." (**N.Y.Times**, 2/24).

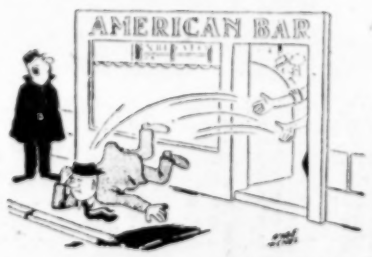
KEEP WAR GOING? The alternative to Geneva would have been worse, Under-Secy. Smith explained to a Congressional committee, since "the French government would have fallen and France would have pulled out of Indo-China altogether" (Drew Pearson, 2/26).

In France the point was not missed that Washington may have agreed to talks with China at Geneva in order to prevent direct French-Viet Minh negotiations. French deputy Pierre Mendes-France recently warned that to "internationalize" the peace talks would be as dangerous as to internationalize the war: by making peace in Indo-China wait upon settlement of U.S. differences with China, it would provide a pretext for continuing the war indefinitely. **Business Week** indicated (2/27) that this is Washington's plan, and dickering over Indo-China might, like the Korean truce talks, last for years. **BW** added:

> ". . . The U.S. now has a prime political responsibility for the Indo-China War. France has given up sole responsibility by default. . . . We have resolved not to let Indo-China go down the Communist drain. The alternative to a truce may well be an undeclared war with China—even blockade and bombing."

SANITY AVOIDED: This Administration policy meets resistance at home—even within the Administration. Ned Russell (N.Y. **Herald Tribune**, 2/26) reported "a growing belief among some . . . officials that some day the whole question of American relations with Communist China must come under fresh examination." McCarthy's blitz helped block any such move to sanity, and to silence questions from the American taxpayer for whom the "causes and motives [of U.S. involvement in Indo-China] remain even more obscure . . . than did the battle for Korea" (**AP**, 2/27).

Abroad, this policy was splitting the Atlantic alliance. French demand to end the war "has become the case of 'an irresistible force sweeping over an immovable object'" (**Christian Science Monitor**, 2/24); the Assembly was forced to debate an immediate armistice as proposed by Indian Prime Minister Nehru, the government to send a cabinet minister to India where Canada's Premier St. Laurent endorsed Nehru's proposal. French Defense Minister Pleven, returning from Indo-China, was reported ready to recommend a cease-fire before Geneva (**UP**, 2/28).



Carrefour, Paris

EXTRATERRITORIALITY

"THE LAST PAT": In the aftermath of Berlin, the Anglo-U.S. alliance, "still the paramount political factor in the western world" (**NYT**, 2/28), creaked under the strains: a British Labour Party revolt against German rearmament dealt "perhaps the last pat of the spade on the grave of EDC [European Defense Community]." The parliamentary party passed a German rearmament resolution of the party leadership by only nine votes; since almost 100 Labour MP's abstained, this meant a majority opposed. Some 200 constituency Labour parties and six trade unions representing two million workers had already lined up behind the parliamentary rebels. **NYT** (2/24 & 27) saw Aneurin Bevan

> ". . . re-emerging as the powerful leader of a party faction that is opposed to almost all U.S. policies in continental Europe. . . . The manner in which the more conservative trade unions are swinging over to support of the rebels worries the official leaders of the party."

WINNIE'S "DISTURBING" HOPES: The revolt "is considered likely to shake French opinion" (**NYT**, 2/24) which the British government had hoped to swing over to German rearmament by promises of closer British links to EDC. Churchill's speech demanding a "substantial relaxation" in the East-West trade embargo, and reviving his idea of top-level talks with Moscow, took further starch out of the German rearmament drive. Although Churchill called for pushing EDC, his reference to Berlin's "fruitful results," his belief that Geneva will be even more fruitful and hope it "will open the road" to China trade

> ". . . aroused considerable concern in official quarters . . . will have disturbing repercussions throughout the Western alliance and especially on Anglo-U.S. relations" (**NYHT**, 2/26).

While Britain announced plans to expand trade with Eastern Europe, Washington closed all Polish consulates in the U.S. without any pretext—a clear sign of its frustration over Berlin and determination to continue the cold war.

U. S.-British hassle in the Middle East

Churchill sought to regain the lost diplomatic initiative, to bolster Britain's weakening trade position and its bargaining position with Washington, which is moving aggressively to oust British influence from the Middle East and South Asia. This bitter Anglo-U.S. conflict is a prime factor behind the crises sweeping the Middle East—the revolt which overthrew the Shishekly dictatorship in Syria, trouble in Egypt's ruling clique which saw the ouster, then restoration, of Naguib as President.

Washington's plans for the Middle East — bilateral military agreements with each state—leave out any role for Britain and France which were to have participated in the now-discarded Middle East Defense Organization. Washington's "good offices" in mediating the Anglo-Egyptian dispute over Suez have been directed to forcing the British to evacuate the great Suez base, so it could move in with a bilateral military agreement to control the whole area.

GANG WAR: On one level the Anglo-U.S. conflict is being fought out by outright interference in the Middle East, coups d'état, assassination, revolt. In Syria, Washington had a hand in the Dec., 1951, military coup which brought Shishekly to power; London reportedly engineered the uprising of Druse tribes early this year and is more than a bystander in the current revolt.

On another level Britain is trying to get U.S. agreement to re-dividing spheres of influence in this whole area. It wants, said **NYT** from London (1/24), a Mid-East conference with the U.S. to "co-ordinate policy"; in return for U.S. support in its conflict with Egypt (the British have complained openly and bitterly of the U.S. sabotaging their position in Egypt), it would not oppose U.S. military pacts with Turkey, Pakistan, Iran, etc.

MORE BRITISH SHAME: Washington is cool to these overtures. It has forged steadily ahead in its drive for Middle East dominance, upped its share of oil there from 31% in 1945 to 59% today while Britain's fell from 64 to 33%, and is now (London **Sunday Express**, 1/31)

> ". . . moving in on Persian oil. . . . Another shameful stage in the liquidation of British power and prestige in the Middle East is in progress."

Drawing by Galoriel, London

"That's funny, Carruthers, when we had to leave there were only you and I."

But the Middle East peoples are taking a hand in their own affairs. On the government level in Asia, popular pressure for more independent policies showed its effects anew in Nehru's cold rejection of U.S. military aid last week: he accused the U.S. of "a form of intervention" in Asian affairs, said its military pacts were undermining UN, and that Asian countries refuse "to be dominated by any country for whatever purpose."

In the conflicts within and among the capitalist powers and the colonial world lie opportunities for all peoples to work toward eliminating the sources of war.

Ben Gold on trial in T-H oath case

AGAINST a background of stepped-up harassment of progressive trade unionists by Congressional committees—and in the midst of Senate hearings on a bill under which unions could be outlawed—president Ben Gold of the Intl. Fur & Leather Workers Union went on trial in Washington Feb. 23 on a three-count charge of falsifying a Taft-Hartley non-Communist affidavit in 1950. Each count carries a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment or $10,000 fine or both. Urging other unions to protest the prosecution to Atty. Gen. Herbert Brownell, the furriers' union warned:

> "If the frame-up against Gold can be put over, then every honest and militant trade union leader, every honest and militant worker is in danger."

Gold publicly resigned from the Communist Party before he signed the affidavit in 1950. Chief defense counsel Vito Marcantonio's offer to stipulate Gold's 30-year membership in the party until then was declined by the prosecution, which indicated it will seek to show that Gold "had followed the party line" after signing the affidavit.

COWBOYS AND INDIANS: Five government employes were chosen on the jury after the court rejected a defense motion to bar such employes because of the climate of fear in Washington.

The indictment against Gold was obtained a day before expiration in the case of the three-year statute of limitations; a grand jury in New York had earlier refused to return an indictment.

First government witness, John Hladon, was brought in from Canada where he has been a successful anti-Communist writer and lecturer. He testified that he had studied with Gold at the Lenin Institute in Moscow in 1930; the defense showed that a book he said was used at that time was published in 1938. He also admitted to at least 50 inaccuracies in a recent newspaper series he wrote and said that much of it was "fiction, like cowboy and Indian" stories.

Wells: One more month to live?

The southern section of the California State Assn. of Colored Women has wired Gov. Goodwin Knight in the name of "common decency and suffering humanity" to grant clemency to Wesley Robert Wells. In prison since the age of 19, the 44-year-old Negro prisoner is scheduled to die April 9 in San Quentin's gas chamber because, as the result of deliberate provocation, he threw a cuspidor at and injured a prison guard, who recovered and returned to work. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to review Wells' case. Wells' fate is now in the hands of the Governor.

Write or wire Gov. Goodwin Knight, State Capitol, Sacramento, Calif., urging clemency for Wells. Time is short!

Address of the Committee for Defense of Wells: 1228 McAllister St., Room 211, San Francisco, Calif.

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NEW YORK EDITION

Vol. 6, No. 20 NEW YORK, MARCH 8, 1954

The House We Live In

THIS is the complete list of headlines on pages two and three of the N. Y. **Daily News**, March 1, 1954:

7 of Staff Die in Grossinger Hotel Blaze
Two Tough Guys Go for Rides
4 Shots From Behind Erase Rolypoly Tony
Hoodlum Found Slain Near Gracie Mansion
5 Dead in Blast in Philadelphia
Fear Balks Exposure of School Terrors
Barehanded, Fencer Routs 3 Penthouse Knife Bandits
Plucky Matron Slashes Mug With Knife; Saves Purse
O'Dwyer Goes Back

THE SQUARE DEAL

Landlords hog gravy in Village revamping

TO contractors and landlords Washington Square looked like a melon ready to slice.

The original deal for the Square's redevelopment promised richly, but landlords have found ways to improve on that promise. Under terms proposed by City Planning Commr. Robert Moses and approved by the Board of Estimate a month ago, the Commission on Slum Clearance was to buy up the land and then resell it to New York University which seeks to expand its campus and to private contractors who plan to build luxury apartments renting at $48 a room (GUARDIAN, 12/21/53).

The city would buy the land at varying prices depending on the assessments but at an average of $19.88 a square foot. NYU would then buy from the commission at $5 a foot, private contractors at $13.50. The difference would come ⅓ from city funds, ⅔ from federal.

BIGGER SLICES: Last week while the Board of Estimate was considering what to do with the Square's present tenants, one of them, John Lawrence of 79 Washington Pl., told the Board that landlords had managed to have the assessments on their property increased by as much as 25% so as to command an even greater price in condemnation proceedings at the taxpayers' expense.

The Board quickly referred

(Continued on Page N. Y. 2)

Yorkville (N.Y.) Good Neighbor
"Makes your blood boil, doesn't it?"

REPORT ON ALBANY

Bi-partisan rooking

By Arthur Schutzer

THE Dewey administration and the Wagner administration are sticking to the bi-partisan script on city fiscal problems.

Wagner first "requested" a total of $145 million. Dewey now "turns down" this request and counter-offers what is no surprise to City Hall—namely, the bland suggestion that, instead of more state aid, New York City should intensify the tax load on consumers, workers.

So, still following the script, Wagner will now shed glycerine tears and "reluctantly" soak New Yorkers with new levies which may include a $60 annual overnight parking tax, and a payroll tax to be paid in part by every worker. Furthermore, Wagner will also "reluctantly" retain the auto use tax, the 3% sales tax, and similar soak-the-consumer levies.

A significant footnote to this phony bi-partisan rooking of New Yorkers was added when Wagner complained not so much of a refusal to help solve New York City's fiscal crisis — as that Dewey violated a "gentleman's agreement" with Wagner by making public a three-part report on city finances. Wagner said he was deeply hurt—claimed that he and Dewey had agreed to settle the whole matter in private, like "gentlemen."

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: On September 22, 1944, GOP Presidential candidate Dewey pledged in a campaign speech at Los Angeles: "We must widen the provisions of unemployment insurance to include the groups which are not now included."

The largest such group comprises 500,000 workers in N.Y. State who are not covered by unemployment insurance because they work for firms employing fewer than four employes.

On Feb. 1, Dewey's own N.Y. State Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council urged in its report that this injustice be corrected. Seventeen states have extended unemployment insurance to all employes. Dewey's Advisory Council specifically pulled the rug from under Dewey's alibis for inaction by pointing out that the extra administrative work load could be handled efficiently and immediately by the Unemployment Insurance Division. As unemployment mounts, 500,000 workers are still frozen out of unemployment insurance coverage.

The 10-year-old campaign pledge still awaits redemption.

TOOTHLESS LAWS TO BLAME

Fires increase 5th year in row; 15 bad ones in Harlem in 6 mos.

By Ione Kramer

MORE serious fires have occurred in N.Y. this year than last year, and each year for the last five the number of fires has increased, a spokesman for the N.Y.C. Fire Dept. told the GUARDIAN.

In the past six months Harlem alone has had 15 major fires which claimed several lives and drove 500 families from their homes. Three children and one adult died in a tenement fire at 2971 W. 25th St., Coney Island, Feb. 9. The next week a Brooklyn family of four were asphyxiated, leaving a 6-months-old infant as sole survivor when faulty plumbing put out the flame of a gas heater in their apartment. June, 1952, seven Negro tenants died in Brooklyn, at least 10 others died in the six months following.

LAWS WITHOUT TEETH: Delegations to Albany from the ALP and Tenant Councils have been citing these grim effects of dilapidated housing and toothless housing laws. With only a few weeks to go until the Legislature closes in mid-March, delegations are pressing to get several key bills out of legislative committee and into action.

Mrs. Nat Rosenbluth, of the Brooklyn Tenants' Council, stressed the "prior lien" bill, introduced by Assemblyman Brook (R-Man.), which would permit the city to repair violations in a building when the landlord refuses to do it, and charge it to the landlord. The bill for repairs would have first lien or first claim on the property's assets, as taxes do now. "Many landlords take advantage of their Puerto Rican tenants' unfamiliarity with English to give them the runaround on repairs, keep them living in buildings with dangerous violations," Mrs. Rosenbluth told the GUARDIAN.

HOW MUCH AIR? February's Coney Island fire—which occurred in a "legal rooming house," so classified by the City Dept. of Housing and Buildings, although the sprinkler system there did not operate—dramatized another housing problem. Tenant groups rallied behind the Marro-De Salvio (both D-Man.) bill which would set up a special division in the State Rent Commission to handle problems of furnished rooms, including safety and health regulations, and rent gouging. In many "converted apartments" legal or otherwise, families are paying $25 to $35 per week for a furnished room.

Amendments to the Multiple Dwelling Law, urged by the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council, ask 100 square feet of floor space (excluding kitchen and bath) for every person over two years old living in an apartment or room. The present law asks 400 cubic feet of air space, which permits a landlord to legally rent a small room with a high ceiling to several people.

Another amendment would require a toilet for every 10 persons and washbowl for every five. (The law now asks only one toilet for every seven sleeping rooms, makes no provision for baths or showers. A survey by the Brooklyn Grand Jury found one toilet "legally sufficient" for 42 persons.)

NEW BILLS: Getting strong tenant support are three bills introduced by Sen. Metcalf (R-Auburn) and Assemblyman Baker (D-Brooklyn), at the request of the 28 religious civic and labor organizations making up the N.Y. Committee on Discrimination in Housing. The Metcalf bills would set up a 15-man bi-partisan commission to study housing discrimination, give the State Comm. Against Discrimination jurisdiction over public housing, urban redevelopment (Title I) and limited-dividend housing, and outlaw jimcrow in apartments aided by government loans.

A stronger bill, but considered having less chance of getting out of the Finance Comm., is one by Sen. Marro, which flatly prohibits discrimination in rental, sale or lease of all

(Continued on p. N. Y. 2)

FIVE HUNDRED HOMELESS IN HALF A YEAR
That's the Harlem record, and other parts of the city are almost as bad. The photo above was taken in January at a fire in W. 141st which swept three Harlem tenements and drove 60 families into icy streets.

ROSAURA REVUELTAS and JUAN CHACON
The women save the strike

'Salt of the Earth' opens here March 14

WORLD premiere of the long-awaited film **Salt of the Earth** has been set for Sunday evening, March 14, at the Grande Theatre, 86th St. near Lexington. Continuous performance run will start next day.

The film was inspired by actual events of the 1950 strike against the Empire Zinc Co. at Bayard, N.M., by Local 890, Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, which was won after more than a year of ordeal by violence. Most of the strikers were Mexican-Americans; highlight of the strike, and of the movie, was the taking-over of picket-lines by the women after a court injunction ordered the men off. Most of the cast are Mine-Mill members in Silver City, N.M., where the film was made in co-operation with the union. The leading roles are played by Local 890 pres. Juan Chacon and Rosaura Revueltas, twice winner of the Mexican "Oscar," in her first English-language performance.

Hollywood Academy Award winner Michael Wilson wrote the script. The film was completed under extraordinary difficulties (culminating in the deportation of Miss Revueltas) by director Herbert Biberman and Paul Jarrico, who produced it for Independent Productions Corporation.

FOR MORE FLAGGS

Negro demand for office puts Dems on carpet

REPORTING last week's testimonial dinner to Municipal Court Justice Lewis Flagg, **Brooklyn Eagle** columnist Harold H. Harris wrote: "Many Dem. officials at the feed were ill at ease and some privately expressed regret they had attended. They went to pay tribute to Flagg. Instead they were put on the carpet."

The dinner for Flagg, as Brooklyn's first Negro judge, was sponsored by the Bedford-Stuyvesant League which grew out of the rank-and-file committee that elected Flagg over opposition of the Democratic machine. The League invited the machine leaders to dinner, then told them Brooklyn needed more Flaggs, Negro representation inside the party and in public office.

A WIRE TO IKE: League chairman Wesley McD. Holder called for two Negro district leaders, consultation with Negro community heads before designating Congressional and Legislative candidates. Rep. Adam Clayton Powell raised his sights, said he had wired President Eisenhower urging that among four replacements to the U. S. Supreme Court, which he said were imminent, one be a Negro and one a Protestant.

He offered as candidates: Judges Rivers, Dickens, and Delany, lawyers Herbert Stout and Thurgood Marshall, NAACP legal director.

NO KERCHIEFS: Wesley Holder outlined the League's objectives which include not only Negro political representation but advances in housing and health, particularly a hospital in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area, a project stalled for years in the Board of Estimate.

The **Amsterdam News** cited after-dinner comment to the effect that the dinner marked the end of "handkerchief-head" leadership.

A PICTURE OF TWO ELVES

The Children's Own Theater, in its third New York season now, is Presenting "The Shoemaker and the Elves" as its last production of the season. Saturdays through this month (see Children's Listing, p. N. Y. 4).

Fires increase

(Continued from Page N. Y. 1)

dwellings, public and private. Other similar bills have been introduced by Sen. Julius Archibald (D-Lib.-Man.).

VETS ENDANGERED: Delegations are also lobbying for a bill by Assemblyman Gans (D-Bronx), which would extend to Dec. 31, 1955, veterans' preferential status in public housing. Last Dec. 31, the law granting vets priority for admission to projects, and permitting them to earn 7-8 times the monthly rent they pay in low - rent housing, expired; many veterans' families are faced with eviction. The N. Y. City Housing Authority is holding up evictions until the Legislature has acted on the Gans bill.

All tenant lobbies are pressing for repeal of the 15% rent increase, and more state aid for public housing than was included in the $200 million bond issue signed by Gov. Dewey last month.

Save money — get value: Use Guardian Buying Service

FIGHTS DEPORTATIONS

At an all-day conference Feb. 27 on ways to combat the deportation drive under the Walter-McCarran Act, a New York Committee for Protection of Foreign Born was formed, with Alec Jones (above) as exec. secy. Other officers of the new organization are Capt. Hugh Mulzac, chairman; Constantine Ossip, treasurer.

PRINCETON, MAR. 13

Meeting honors Einstein on 75th birthday

IN honor of Dr. Albert Einstein's 75th birthday 200 educators, ministers and authors will conduct an all-day conference March 13 at the Nassau Tavern, Princeton, N. J., on "The Meaning of Academic Freedom." At lunch author Harvey O'Connor, recently cited for contempt after a bout with Sen. McCarthy, will report on his recent speaking tour across the country. Participants in the conference, which is sponsored by the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, will include Charles A. Allen, pres., Newark Fedn. of Teachers (AFL), Rev. John W. Bradbury, editor of the Watchman-Examiner (Baptist weekly), Dr. Corliss Lamont (Columbia University), Mary van Kleeck, I. F. Stone, and professors John Ciardi (Rutgers), Barrows Dunham (Temple), John Somerville (Cornell, Harvard) and Dirk Struik (M. I. T.). Registration, including lunch, is $5.

WAR ON THE WATERFRONT

Pickets picketed, confusion mounts, port is tied up; Tony prays as NLRB fiddles

ANTHONY (Tough Tony) Anastasia led 1,000 members of Local 1195, old ILA, in silent prayer for Thomas Rubino, financial secy. of the ILA's Local 1199 who a week earlier was found beaten almost to death in union headquarters.

The bizarre spectacle of strong-arm Anastasia leading a prayer meeting pointed up the confusion on the waterfront last week. The port, more tangled than ever, was pulled in a dozen different directions and by Wednesday shipping had practically halted.

EVERYBODY PICKET: The conflict between the old ILA and the raiding AFL boiled up over AFL shop steward William McMahon, whom the Moore-McCormack Line employed at Pier 32 on the Hudson. Old ILA threatened to picket. The company fired McMahon. The AFL picketed. Then the AFL Teamsters, who have been grinding their own axe in separate negotiations with John L. Lewis and the AFL, decided to respect the picket line, refused to move cargo from Pier 32.

The ILA retaliated by refusing to unload teamsters' trucks at most piers, in effect tying up the port. Teamsters then picketed ILA docks. Shipping companies said they would ask for anti-picketing injunctions against all waterfront unions.

The NLRB threatened to enjoin all picketing.

PETRIFIED BALLOTS: Even though shop steward McMahon seemed the immediate cause of the tie-up, the port in fact has been tied up in court and NLRB wrangles because the AFL and Gov. Dewey have refused to recognize the balloting last fall, when the ILA clearly won representation rights.

By throwing that tally into a legal spin and preventing any certification, Dewey and the AFL have made any bargaining on the docks impossible. The result has been confusion among the unions and has left uncontested the state's scheme for longshore regimentation.

TOO MUCH FOR JARKA: The ILA won a partial victory before the NLRB as the trial examiner opened hearings on the dock election March 1. The Board ruled that Dewey's representative could not legally "intervene" in the hearings, though he could participate as a "friend of the court." Examiner Leff said the Board would act on information supplied by N. Y. State and if it failed to act on such evidence, Dewey could then reopen the demand for full participation. State officials rejected that formula, moved to take their case to higher-ups. Board hearings were then adjourned pending a final ruling.

THOMAS RUBINO

Officer of ILA Local 1199 after attack by four goons.

In court the AFL scored when Federal Judge John F. X. McGohey turned down an ILA petition that would rule it illegal for the State to intervene in hearings before the NLRB.

The whole thing apparently was too much for the Jarka Stevedoring Co., which has been doing a yearly business of $25 million. Last year's State Crime Commission hearings revealed that Jarka officials had bribed shipping executives and worked closely with some underworld figures. Jarka last week threw in the sponge, said it would pull out of New York, continue operation in other ports from Maine to Virginia.

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Landlords

(Continued from Page N. Y. 1)

Lawrence to Commr. of Investigations Peter Campbell Brown and the scandal, barely noted up to then, disappeared from the daily press.

STRANGE BOOM: The GUARDIAN learned that two of the landlords who stand to benefit from the mysterious boom in their property values originally headed the Community Building Owners & Tenants Assn., which fought the redevelopment plan—and lost. This is the way assessments rose for Assn. officials Isaac Sandberg and Nathan Udell:

Property listed as owned by "Isaac Sandberg et al" at 126, 128 and 130 Bleecker St. was assessed in 1953-54 at $36,000; in 1954-55, $50,000. Other Sandberg houses at 112 and 116 Bleecker rose from $80,000-$100,000; 28 and 30 W. 3d St. from $80,000-$85,000; 215 and 217 Green St., from $70,000-$75,000 each. Udell's property rose this way: 201 Wooster St., $55,000-$58,000; 207 Wooster St., $75,000-$80,000.

The assessments were granted before last November when the Assn. was still fighting the Square redevelopment plan. How or why the assessments were raised was unclear last week; property threatened with condemnation is usually expected to decline in value, not skyrocket.

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The question

NEW YORK, N. Y.

In his radio and television address "Back to God" (Feb. 7) President Eisenhower ended by saying: "In God we trust." This is not fully confirmed by what Robert S. Allen reveals in his article "How Our Atom Family Grows": Tens of thousands of nuclear weapons the U. S. owns and steadily pyramids. The question: Do we trust in God or in nuclear weapons?

A. Garcia Diaz

"Are you interested in finding out the true cause of cancer, Dr. Micro, or do you want to make a lot of money?"

NEW YORK CALENDAR

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Philosophy: Yesterday and Today
Lecturer: DR. BARROWS DUNHAM
author of "Giant in Chains"
Thurs., March 18—8-9:30 p.m.
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N. Y. MANDOLIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Samuel Firstman conducting, 30th Anniversary Concert, Sat., March 27, 8:30 p.m., at Town Hall. Soloists: Leon Lishner, baritone, N.Y.C. Opera Co.; Leon Malamut, concertinist. Tickets: $1.25-$2 at box office.

"LIFT EVERY VOICE" — To end discrimination in Parkchester Housing Project. Hear & See the greatest promenade of stars from Stage, Screen, Radio & Television. Fri., March 26, 8 p.m., at Manhattan Center, 34th St. & 8th Av. Tickets in advance $1.20, at the door $1.50. Sponsor: Bronx County American Labor Party, 1723 Boston Road. WY 1-0720.

FIRST IN A SERIES of 2 lectures on the historical role of women: "Are Women Inferior to Men," Fri., March 12, 8 p.m., 116 University Pl. (nr. Union Sq.) Auspices: Socialist Workers Party. Cont. 25c.

GUY CARAWAN folk singing with a difference at Film Division's Weekly Surprise Party. Social, refreshments and a surprise package at ASP Galleries, 35 W. 64th St., Sat., March 6, 9 p.m. Cont. $1.

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LOCAL 475 SHOWS THE WAY

3,500 UE members halt work to rally for jobless plan

SOME 3,500 members of Local 475 of the independent United Electrical Workers stopped work at 2 p.m. Feb. 25 and jammed Manhattan Center to rally for a program to combat growing unemployment in their industry.

New York labor has issued warnings, drafted programs on the threat of unemployment; but UE was the first to back a program with a mass stoppage. The rally drew salutes from surprising quarters. Mayor

JUSTICE FLAGG
The message was meaningful

Wagner sent "warm greetings . . . best wishes for the success of the meeting."

Reporters aware of continuing attacks on UE by witch-hunters raised questions at City Hall, were told by Wagner's press secretary, William R. Peer, that the message was a form letter sent out whenever the Mayor can't appear.

ANFUSO SPEAKS: Council Pres. Abe Stark also greeted the local cordially. Rep. Heller (D-Brooklyn) commended its "militant stand . . . on the civil rights program calling for the enactment of an FEPC . . . the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law and the McCarran Law, etc."

Municipal Court Justice Lewis S. Flagg congratulated the local on its "splendid efforts . . . in the struggle to achieve brotherhood." Magistrate Victor Anfuso spoke in person.

The wide support testified to the local's strength (about 7,500 members, mainly in Brooklyn) and to a general awareness that unemployment was a serious issue, explosively charged in an election year.

THE PROGRAM: The local's program, approved at the rally, called for wage increases; contract clauses preventing industry runaways to cheap labor areas; $1.25 minimum wage; repeal of Taft-Hartley and Hughes-Brees laws (restricting unemployment insurance benefits); a shorter work week retaining pay at the 40-hour weekly rate; election of unionists to office.

As the UE rallied, First Deputy City Commerce Commissioner Frank Connaughton announced that applications for unemployment insurance had risen 55% in the last year. The total was 191,300 on Feb. 19. That figure does not include those not covered by unemployment benefits or those who have already exhausted their 20 weeks of jobless pay.

The city's Welfare Dept. revealed its case load had risen from 249,934 in December to 254,302 in January and it might need more money this year. A U.S. Dept. of Labor spokesman called the situation "a rather alarming trend."

Guatemala story

Paul Robeson, Dr. Robert Morss Lovett, GUARDIAN's Elmer Bendiner, UE's Florentino L'Uis, Karen Morley and others will discuss the Guatemala story and the "threat of war on our doorstep" (see NATIONAL, p. 1) on March 12 at Manhattan Plaza, 66 E. 4th St. Auspices: Provisional Committee on Latin-American Affairs.

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SOME OF HOLLYWOOD'S BEST:

Talk of the Town (1942, Sidney Buchman), with Cary Grant, Jean Arthur, Ronald Colman—a legal scholar defends a framed labor leader. Mar. 5-7. Birthday cake on the house in honor of Club's 3rd Anniversary.

Sahara, Humphrey Bogart in J. H. Lawson script about an army tank. Mar. 12-14.

N. Y. HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Central Pk. W. & 77th St. **Grandma Moses, Boundary Lines, Working Together**, documentaries, 2 p.m., Sat., Mar. 6. Free.

Manhattan

AMERICAN, 236 E. 3d St. **Stars of the Ukraine** (Russ.) & **Teresa**, Mar. 11-12.

ART, 36 E. 8th St. **Times Gone By** (It.), thru Mar. 16.

BEEKMAN, 2d Av. bet. 65-66 Sts. **Times Gone By**, thru Mar. 9; **Martin Luther**, Mar. 10-12.

BEVERLY, 3d Av. & 50th St. **Top Hat & Stage Door** (2 reissues), Mar. 7-13.

CRITERION, B'way & 45th. **Best Years of Our Lives** (1946, F. March, M. Loy, etc.), from Mar. 10.

8TH ST. PLAYHOUSE, 52 W. 8th. **Green for Danger & 7th Veil**, thru Mar. 6; **Roman Holiday**, Mar. 7-10; **Fanfan the Tulip & Justice Is Done** (both Fr.), Mar. 11-17.

EMBASSY, B'way & 72d St. **Times Gone By**, thru Mar. 6.

55TH ST. PLAYHOUSE, 154 W. 55th. **April 1, 2000** (Austrian musical protesting 4-power occupation), continuing.

52D ST. TRANSLUX, Lexington & 52d Lll. cont.

FINE ARTS, 58th bet. Park-Lexington. **Conquest of Everest** (Br. docum.), cont.

GRAMERCY, Lexington & 23d St. **Times Gone By**, thru Mar. 9.

LITTLE CARNEGIE, 146 W. 57th St. **Heidi** (Swiss, Eng dubbed) & **White Mane**, cont.

MIDTOWN, B'way & 100th St. **Times Gone By**, thru Mar. 6; **Stage Door & Top Hat**, from Mar. 10.

NORMANDIE, 110 W. 57th St. **The Golden Coach** (Italian-made in English, with Magnani in the Commedia dell'Arte), cont.

PARIS, 4 W. 58th St. **Captain's Paradise** (Br., Guinness), cont.

PLAZA, 58th & Madison. **Julius Caesar**, cont.

72D ST. TRANSLUX, 346 E. 72d St. **My Little Chickadee** (W. C. Fields), **The Tramp** (Chaplin), **Evening Alone** (R. Benchley), cont.

60TH ST. TRANSLUX, Madison & 60th. **The Holly and the Ivy** (Br.), cont.

STANLEY, 7th Av. at 42d St. **Rimsky Korsakov & Leo Tolstoy** (both Russ. biogs.), cont.

STODDARD, B'way & 90th. **Limelight & Kind Hearts and Coronets**, thru Mar. 9; **Roman Holiday & Young Man with Ideas**, from Mar. 10.

SUTTON, 57th St. & 3d Av. **Genevieve** (Br. comedy), cont.

THALIA, 95th & B'way. **Les Miserables** (Fr., H. Baur) & **Moor's Pavane**, Mar. 5-11.

WAVERLY, 6th Av. & 3d St. **From Here to Eternity**, Mar. 6-9; **Beneath the 12-Mile Reef**, Mar. 12-15.

Bronx

ASCOT, 2313 Gr. Concourse. **Times Gone By** (It.), cont.

NEW THEATRE

'Time of Storm' at the Mews

CAPABLY ACTED, expertly directed by Michael Howard in Robert Soule's handsome setting, Sheldon Stark's **Time of Storm** at the Greenwich Mews is a provocative contribution to the "literature of the witchhunt." Accusers become the accused and people, like the boughs of trees in a storm, "beat upon one another as if they would beat one another to pieces" during a colonial New England witchhunt.

Characters are less heroic and their motivations much less clearly drawn than in Arthur Miller's **The Crucible**. But honest sheriff Nathaniel Wellman (Mike Kellin), himself condemned as a wizard because he refuses to execute an innocent woman, goes to his death asserting there is no compromise with a witchhunt; once it is allowed to start, like a fire it endangers the whole community. Through Wellman's ruthless and thoroughly unsympathetic wife (Jane White) Stark hints at the economics of political persecution, but hangs the plot too much on her character and the accusations of hysterical children. Cast includes Miriam Craig, James Karen, Chevi Colton, Betty Bendyk, Michael Lewin.

—I. K.

Events for Children

Films

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATL. HISTORY, Central Park W. at 79th St. **Japanese Family & Shellfishing**, 4 p.m., Wed., Mar. 10. Recorded music played at 3:30 before film show. Free.

B'KLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC, 30 Lafayette Av. **Peter Pan & Water Birds** (both Disney), 3 p.m., Sat., Mar. 13. $1.

B'KLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY BRANCHES: Making a Mask & Ti-Jean Goes Lumbering, 10 a.m., Sat., Mar. 6, Bay Ridge Br., 203 73d St. and 4 p.m., Thurs., Mar. 11, Leonard, 81 Devoe St.; **Junior Rodeo Daredevils & Wonders in the Desert**, 3:30 p.m., Fri., Mar. 12, Prospect, 431 6th Av. Free.

MUSEUM OF CITY OF N. Y., 5th Av. & 103d St. **Land of Liberty** (Pts. 3 & 4), Sat., Mar. 13, 11 a.m. & 3 p.m. Free.

N. Y. BOTANICAL GARDENS, Bronx Park, N. Y. **Nature Subjects with Color Photography** (talk, kodachromes), 3:30 p.m., Sat., Mar. 13. Museum Bldg. Free.

Music & Dance

HIGH SCHOOL DANCE MAJORS, dances and studies. Advanced group of Playhouse students. Murray Louis, director. Henry St. Playhouse, 488 Grand St. 8:40 p.m. Sat., Mar. 13. $1. OR 4-1100.

MARTHA SCHLAMME, concert for young people. Children's songs from many lands. Carnegie Recital Hall, 154 W. 57th St. 1:45 p.m., Sun., Mar. 14. $2.40, $1.80 & $1.20. Box office: CI 7-7460. Mail orders: Intl. Folkways, 113 W. 42d St. LO 4-8317.

Plays

HOPI INDIANS, program of Hopi songs and dances, folk-lore and costumes presented by Indian family, including two children. McMillin Theater, B'way & 116th St. Reserv. & information call MO 3-5709 or MO 3-5212. Tickets on sale at box office after 2 p.m. on day of performance. 3 p.m., Sat., Mar. 6. 50c.

LITLE BEAR, Matinee for Moppets featuring Peggy Bridge Marionettes & Leroy the Magician. Also Princess Morning Star (Indian dancers), Alouette the clown, Lucille Math (ballerina), Prof. Squeezebox and community sing. Academy of Music, 30 Lafayette Av. B'klyn, 3 p.m., Sat., Mar. 6. 75c. ST 3-6700.

MAGIC SHOW will be given at Henry St. Playhouse, 488 Grand St. Sat., Mar. 6, 3 p.m.—Children 10c, adults 60c.

RED THUNDER CLOUD, Indian Legends and Folklore. Henry St. Playhouse, 488 Grand St. 3 p.m., Sat., Mar. 13. Children 10c, adults 60c.

SHOEMAKER AND THE ELVES, plus a Mexican Fiesta (songs & dances). Children's Own Theater, Metropolitan-Duane, 201 W. 13th St., cor. 7th Av. Performances on Sats. thru March, 3 p.m. 75c-$1.80. PL 7-6300 or CH 2-9693.

SNOW WHITE. Play for young folk by Playmart Children's Theater. Adult Actors and dancers. Playmart's "Host" Don Sheldon during intermission periods. Carl Fischer Concert Hall, 165 W. 57th St. Performances Sats. 1 & 2:45 p.m. & Suns. 2:45 p.m. thru Mar. $1.20 & 75c. Reserv. PL 3-0746 or write Playmart Productions, 52 W. 58th St., N. Y. 19.

Miscellaneous

BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY BRANCHES: Parent Pre-School Groups, films & talks. Free. **Discussion on Children's Films**, 1:30 p.m., Tues., Mar. 9, Arlington, 203 Arlington Av.; **Terrible Two's and Three's** (film), 1:45 p.m., Tues., Mar. 9, Bay Ridge, 203 73d St.; **Lessons in China Painting**, 2 p.m., Thurs., Mar. 11, Bushwick, 166 Siegel St.; **Rainy Day & Illness Activities**, 2 p.m., Wed., Mar. 10, Eastern Pkwy, Eastern Pkwy & Schenectady Ave.; **Child's Guide to Parent's Mind** (film), 2 p.m., Tues., Mar. 9, Ft. Hamilton, 9424 4th Av.; **Television as an Educational Tool**, Tues., Mar. 9, 10:30 a.m., New Lots, 847 New Lots Av.; **Preface to a Life** (film), 2 p.m., Tues., Mar. 9, Saratoga, 81 Hopkinson Av.; **Social Development**, 2 p.m., Tues., Mar. 9, Wash. Irving, 360 Irving Av.

When your organization is having a meeting, party, affair — remember to advertise in the GUARDIAN.

Where to Go

Miscellaneous

THE THEATRE & THE PEOPLE, discussion on seldom-noted aspects of Shakespeare, including treatment of women, religious and racial minorities, intermarriage, with Dr. Annette T. Rubinstein. 8:30 p.m., Sun., Mar. 7. $1. First in series of 4 planned for 1st and 3d Suns. in Mar. & Apr. Others include: novel, poetry, art for art's sake. Series: $3.

CHILDHOOD OF MAXIM GORKY (Russ. film), with Dr. Francine Bradley as commentator and discussion leader. 8:30 p.m., Sun., Mar. 7, Jefferson School, 575 Av. of America. $1.

SPORTS IN HUNGARY, docum. film on famous Hungary-Britain soccer game, and other exhibits, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-8 p.m.; Mar. 6-12, Manhattan Towers, B'way & 76th St. Free. Sponsor: Hungarian Legation.

Music & Dance

ROAD TO FREEDOM, pageant on Jewish life in various periods of American history, written and performed by members of Bronx Emma Lazarus Clubs in celebration of tercentenary of Jewish Life in America. Jewish Philharmonic Chorus under Eugene Malek, dancer Donald McKayle, Gypsy String Ensemble. 8:30 pm., Sat., Mar. 6, Bronx House Auditorium, 1637 Washington Av. $1.20.

FREE CONCERTS: Manhattan Music School, Eric Wicks, violinist, 3 p.m., Sun., Mar. 7, Museum of City of N. Y., 5th Av. & 103d St.; Emily Franz & Verne Thompson, violin-piano duo, 3 p.m., Sun., Mar. 7, N. Y. Historical Soc., Central Pk. W. & 77th St.

Drama

THE THREEPENNY OPERA, satire on political corruption based on "Beggar's Opera." Original Kurt Weill score with new book by Marc Blitzstein, from Bert Brecht German original "Dreigroschenoper," starring Lotte Lenya of Berlin production. 8:30 p.m., Tues. thru Sun. $1.80-$3.60, mats. Sat. & Sun. $1.20-$3. Theater de Lys, 121 Christopher St. Write Christopher Prod., or call WA 4-8782. Opening: Mar. 9.

FOLKSAY THEATRE, from 11:30 p.m. Sat. eves. New address: Royal Playhouse, 83 E. 4th St. March program includes sections from Irish plays, ballads; recitations for contemporary times in tribute to Edgar Lee Masters, Don Marquis, Lynn Riggs; sharecropper's version of "Book of Job," with Rex Ingrahm; jam session. Admission by contribution.

CYANAMIDE, by Burt Marnik, on a furnace man in a Pa. mill town. Tempo Players, at Davenport Theatre, 138 E. 27th St. 8:40 p.m. Wed. thru Sun. MU 4-8693. Opening: Mar. 10.

TIME OF STORM, on 17th-century witch-hunting in New England, by Sheldon Stark. Directed by Michael Howard. Greenwich Mews, 141 W. 13th St. 8:40 nightly except Mon. & Fri. Reserv: TR 3-4810.

SHADOW OF A GUNMAN, Sean O'Casey play on the Irish revolution. "Studio 8:40." Fri.-Sun. 8:40 p.m., 115 W. 52d St. $1.50. PL 7-6300.

THE WORLD OF SHOLOM ALEICHEM, 19th century Jewish humor dramatized by Arnold Perl. Barbizon-Plaza Theater, 58th & 6th Av. Tues.-Sun. eves., mats. Sat. & Sun. CO 5-7845.

THE HASTY HEART, comedy by John Patrick. Equity Library Theater, Lenox Hill Playhouse, 331 E. 70th St. 8:30 p.m. March 3-7, matinee 3 p.m., Sun., Madch 7. Free, send stamped, addressed envelope to ELT.

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WHO ARE THE PUERTO RICAN NATIONALISTS?

Congress gunplay stirs phony red plot

By Elmer Bendiner

WHEN Mrs. Lolita Lebron and three companions unfurled the Puerto Rican flag and opened fire from the visitors' gallery of the House of Representatives last week, five Congressmen fell wounded. The repercussions threatened even graver casualties.

In New York police announced they would reinforce patrols in Puerto Rican neighborhoods, where trigger-happy cops on and off-duty have been as much a threat as a protection to residents.

Congressional leaders made hay out of the tragedy, tried fabricating a communist plot. House Speaker Martin declared flatly: "The assassins undoubtedly were communists."

WHIPPER-UPPERS: The N. Y. press in general played the red angle in the headlines. The **Journal-American** cited this as evidence of a red link: Police found in Mrs. Lebron's furnished room a directory of UN delegations, which "bore physical evidence that it had been repeatedly opened to . . . the names of delegates of the U. S. S. R."

Daily News columnist John O'Donnell reported the armed demonstrators came from "areas controlled by former leftist New Deal Rep. Vito Marcantonio, his successor, anti-Communist Rep. James G. Donovan and Harlem's Negro Cong. Adam C. Powell." The **News** ran Marcantonio's picture with the caption: "Controlled Puerto Rican area." Generally glossed over was Mrs. Lebron's statement to reporters that she knew nothing of communism except that "it is bad. . . . I like my own movement better."

TERRORISM CONDEMNED: Those familiar with Puerto Rican history hardly needed her assurances. Puerto Rican Communists and Nationalists, both small numerically, have never seen eye to eye. Even when Communists sought to organize committees to protest mistreatment of political prisoners in Puerto Rico, including Nationalists, the Nationalists refused co-operation. Nationalists bitterly condemn the Communists for taking part in elections; Communists condemn the tactics which the Nationalists call "sacrifice and valor" and which Communists, along with other parties, denounce as "terrorist."

Puerto Rico's two main parties are the Popular Party, now in power, headed by Gov. Luis Munoz Marin, which has offered the present "commonwealth" status as a substitute for independence; and the Independentist Party, standing for outright independence, confining itself to electoral campaigns.

Independentist leaders, who sit in the Puerto Rican Congress, last week condemned the attack but added that it stemmed from "the hateful colonial system prevailing in Puerto Rico."

FREEDOM FROM WHAT? News commentators told the world that Puerto Ricans had voted against outright independence and were in fact free. Here are some facts on Puerto Rico's freedom.

Almost all legislation passed by the Puerto Rican Congress is subject to approval by the U. S. Congress. Island court rulings are subject to reversal by U. S. federal courts, U. S. federal laws such as Taft-Hartley and the draft apply (the minimum wage does not). Though the U. S. Congress legislates for the island in commercial, military and foreign fields, Puerto Rico has no voting representative in Washington.

LOOK THE OTHER WAY: In a 1951 referendum Puerto Ricans had to choose between the present constitution or nothing. Only 46% of the eligible voters went to the polls, 35% voted for it.

The U. S. Congress later deleted a Bill of Rights in the constitution. In a final referendum in 1952 only 41% of eligible voters balloted with 34% in favor. In no referendum was full independence ever offered as an alternative. Presidents Truman and Eisenhower both said Puerto Ricans could have freedom if their Congress and the U. S. Congress voted for it. The Puerto Rican Congress, controlled by the ruling Popular Party, voted it down.

Congress and the press, taking alarm for the nation's security after the shooting, introduced a bill to install bullet-proof glass in the chamber. That seemed a better shield than the FBI, which employs 5,000 field agents at a cost of $77 million a year, keeps dossiers on 60 million Americans, has looked for "force and violence" between the lines of texts and in misremembered words of dead men, but failed to stop four people armed with Lugers who walked into the Capitol and started shooting.

Guatemala

(Continued from page 1)

beachhead for international communism even by force . . . would not constitute an intervention in [its] internal affairs."—Former Asst. Secy. of State, now United Fruit Co. public relations chief, Spruille Braden (**NYT**, 3/13/53).

"Dictators nearby are spoiling for a chance to uproot the present Guatemalan government" (**Business Week**, 3/21/53).

"At times United Fruit Co. [some of whose land has been taken, with due compensation, for distribution to landless peasants] has acted as though it were a state—a state within a state . . . [But] many people hope [the Guatemalan army will] make another revolution . . . to destroy Communist influence" (N. Y. **Herald Tribune**, 4/9/53).

"[Guatemala is] the Red Outpost in Central America" (**Life**, 10/12/53) . . . "Caribbean Cancer" (ex-McCarthy investigator J. B. Matthews, **American Legion Magazine**, 11/53) . . . "The worst danger spot now . . . [where] the opposition has tried twice to get arms in the U. S." (**U. S. News**, 11/6/53).

"ARMED INTERVENTION?" In December John E. Peurifoy, "a veteran of tussles with the Communists in Greece," was appointed U. S. Ambassador to Guatemala; the Chicago **Daily News** correspondent, seeing "a head-on diplomatic collision" ahead, cabled:

> "Asst. Secy. of State John M. Cabot served notice of our ill temper when he accused the Guatemalan government of 'openly playing the Communist game' . . . Peurifoy is expected to have been given instructions on how to implement Cabot's threat."

NYT's Sidney Gruson (11/8/53) said those interested in "the protection of their own vast economic interests" now foresaw "U. S. armed intervention to overthrow" the Guatemalan government. **Time** (1/11) quoted Peurifoy:

> ". . . Public opinion in the U. S. might force us to take some measures to prevent Guatemala from falling into the lap of international Communism.'"

The Natl. Planning Assn.—several of whose officials (Frank Altschul, H. Christian Stone, etc.) are connected with Wall St. firms with investments in Guatemala—concluded (12/53) that "it may no longer be possible to eliminate [Communists in Guatemala] by peaceful means."

THE GOOD NEIGHBOR: John M. Cabot said (12/3/53) that although the U. S. had "solemnly agreed not to intervene in the internal affairs of our sister republics," the rise of communism would be viewed differently. Senate Foreign Relations Comm. chairman Alexander Wiley (1/14) coupled Guatemala's "unfair treatment" of United Fruit Co. with the charge that it is "a serious beachhead for international communism." AFL pres. George Meany last month chimed in with instructions to Guatemala to combat "the communists." House Foreign Affairs subcommittee chairman Donald L. Jackson (R-Calif.) said:

> "A showdown [in Guatemala] is imminent. . . . The Soviet threat there is aggression as surely as if it were backed by the bayonets of the Red Army. . . . The situation has deteriorated until we find ourselves confronted with a Korea in the West" (**NYHT**, 2/26).

Commenting on recent flights of U. S. jet planes over Central and South American countries, the Laredo, Tex., **Times** observed (1/15) that they would

SPRUILLE BRADEN
From portfolios to bananas

"fly fast and high . . . but will conceal the bombs they could carry! . . . This 'goodwill' trip represents an unquestioned demonstration of force." A TV documentary (**NBT**, 2/14), "Red Rule on our Doorstep," described President Arbenz as "Guatemala's Mossadegh"; commented that "the Indians didn't even know they wanted the land for themselves until someone told them"; switched to El Salvador and Honduras to dwell on the latter's "good airforce," the former's "good army . . . fully equipped by the U. S."

THE PLOT: Since 1944, when dictator Ubico was deposed, more than 30 attempts have been fomented within the country to destroy the popular regime. During last year's Salama uprising by retired military officers who had served Ubico, the insurgents were found to be expecting outside aid, evidenced by carefully-marked landing fields prepared for foreign planes. The government was not surprised later to learn of a broader plot for its overthrow.

On Jan. 29, Guatemalan officials showed local and foreign reporters, as "proof of preparations being made for an armed invasion," some 200 documents, photostats of correspondence between the plotters, technical descriptions of weapons, their use and prices, coded messages, photographs etc. Out of the material this story emerged.

THE HUMANITARIANS: Chief plotters (perhaps acting only as agents) were Gen. Miguel Ydigoras Fuentes, a high official with a bloody reputation under Ubico, who was swamped by Arbenz in the 1950 Presidential election; and Col. Carlos Castillo Armas, who was previously implicated in an attempt to overthrow the government and had escaped from prison. Under a "gentleman's agreement," Ydigoras was to control the political end of the invasion, Castillo to be the military chief.

Among letters betwen Castillo and Nicaragua's president Somoza and his son Col. Somoza Debayle, there was one dated Sept. 20, 1953, which referred to support already given by the Nicaraguan, El Salvador, Dominican Republic and Venezuelan governments to the invasion plot—"this humanitarian effort." The letter added:

> "The government of the North, recognizing the impossibility of any other solution to the grave problem of my country, has taken the decision to let us go ahead with our plans."

"OPÉRATION DIABLO": Somoza Debayle wrote Castillo offering to secure from H. F. Cordes & Co. of Hamburg, Germany, light and heavy weapons, machine guns, mortars, napalm bombs, Jet-Vampire planes, campaign cots, machetes, radio field sets. Letters from Castillo authorized his contact man Jorge Isaac Delgado in Managua, Nicaragua, to buy arms, planes and ships, sign up fliers, "confidential agents," doctors and mercenary soldiers, and negotiate with "The Boss" (Nicaragua's President) concerning a training base for saboteurs, assassins, radio specialists, etc. on the Nicaraguan island of Monotombito under a scheme called "Operation Diablo." Debayle promised Castillo and his agents "rivers of money" from undisclosed sources.

The invasion plan called for bringing troops from Nicaraguan ports to Guatemala's Pacific coast; landing others on private airports near the coast; supporting the invasion by aerial bombardment at the key points of Champerico, San Jose and Escuintla; simultaneously attacking the Guatemalan towns of Chiquimula and Zacapa by land through Honduras; signaling fifth columnists armed with weapons already planted in Guatemala City and Tiquisate, United Fruit's biggest center.

UN GETS PROTEST: "Operation Diablo" was to be supervised by a Col. Carl Studer, U. S. Army retired (U. S. Army denied all knowledge of him), working with United Fruit. Studer was apparently specially privileged in Nicaragua, holding a U. S. passport and a special visa signed by Somoza, enabling him to enter and leave without approval by any consulate.

The U. S. State Dept. and Nicaragua's Somoza have denied the charges but the U. S. has failed to repudiate statements of its officials. The Guatemalan government said it might be forced to present its documentation and to denounce

> ". . . before appropriate international organizations such activities as an attempt to destroy international security and peace among the nations."

Last April, Guatemala protested before the UN Security Council against "open attempts to intervene in the internal affairs of the nation by foreign interests." On the opening day of the Caracas conference, Arbenz declared before Guatemala's Congress that the U. S. S. R. had not and did not threaten to intervene in Guatemalan affairs, and that:

- "Snowballing anti-Communist" propaganda began when big concerns like United Fruit were subjected to labor laws in 1948, when no Communist party existed; "how could they invent an umbrella before it rained?"
- There is now a "Marxist party," but the Constitution "guarantees to all citizens the right to organize, assemble and belong, in terms of ideas with which they sympathize."
- "Guatemala's aspirations have clashed with the profit outlook and policy of the great foreign trusts . . . chiefly in the U. S."
- The rights of the Guatemalan people would be considered first, those of foreign utilities second.

Guatemala has not been without friends. The Chilean Chamber of Deputies has unanimously voted to oppose any attacks on Guatemala. "Friends of Guatemala" societies are active in Cuba and Bolivia, and in Mexico where supporters include former President Cardenas and government members.

TWO PATTERNS: Wall St.'s and Washington's real fear is of the effect of Guatemala's democratic reforms on her neighbors; the possibility that expropriation of United Fruit Co. land

> ". . . may establish a pattern affecting other Latin-American countries where 'anti-imperialism' is already rampant" (**NYHT**, 4/9/53).

The heart of the issue was stated by Guatemala's pro-government paper **Nuestro Diario**, replying to Sen. Wiley:

> "We do not know whether [people named by Wiley] are actually Communists because we do not have here a Detector of Ideologies, nor do we permit our state to hale citizens before committees and force them to state political affiliations. The Holy Inquisition is with us only a sad historic memory. . . ."

TWO CASES TEST LAWS' CONSTITUTIONALITY

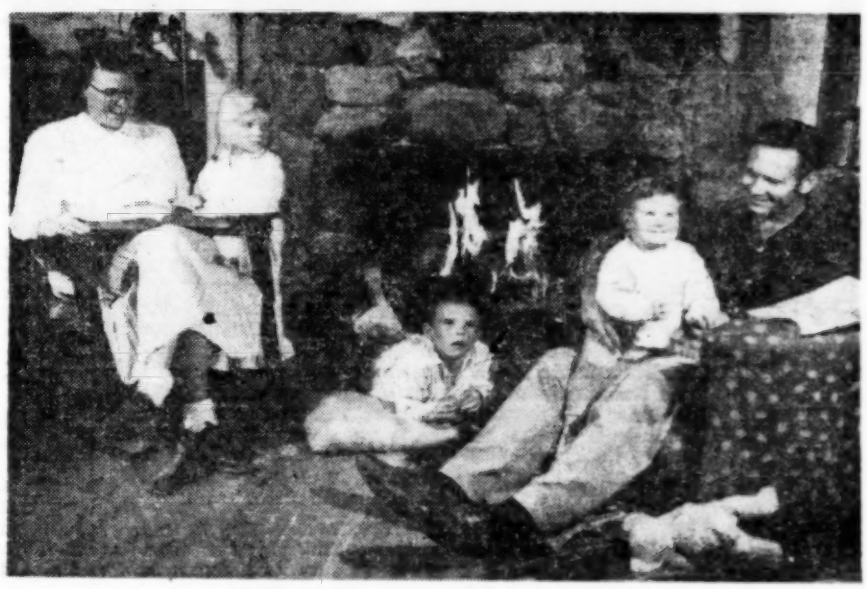
California's war on its teachers

THE State of California achieved national renown early in the cold war for its "loyalty-oath" inquisitions of teachers (begun in 1949) and for the courage with which many teachers and other citizens fought back. In 1950 the Levering Act required all state employes, under pain of dismissal, to swear they never had been, were not and never would be members of unnamed subversive organizations. Last year the almost identical Dilworth and Luckel laws empowered local and state education boards and the U. of Calif. regents to summon teachers, who could be suspended if they refused to answer any and all questions on personal beliefs and associations although they had already signed the Levering oath.

Opposition to the ensuing inquisitions was so broad that the inquisitors hesitated to act on the first victims who defied them on constitutional grounds; but several have now been suspended, and the Los Angeles Board of Education has announced 161 more on a list "for action." The fight to have the laws declared unconstitutional now centers around two test cases: Clinton St. John, physics instructor at Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, fired Oct. 12 under the Dilworth law, and Dr. Harry C. Steinmetz, psychology prof. at San Diego State College, fired Feb. 5 under the Luckel law.

JOE & GRAFTERS: To boost the inquisitors' morale came Sen. Joe McCarthy to Los Angeles Feb. 9, proclaiming on a local Meet the Press TV program—and later under "Freedom Club" auspices in the 1st Congregational Church—that the L. A. Board of Education was "100% right" in ousting "5th Amendment teachers."

Both the test challenges to the laws' constitutionality have the support of the S. California branch of the American Civil Liberties Union. Calling on those who fired St. John to "eschew the role of Star Chamber inquisitors," the ACLU has characterized the Dilworth Law as denying full citizenship rights to teachers, nullifying the protection of teacher tenure, establishing "guilt by association," accentuating "the hysteria which has already weakened our moral principles and emasculated the courage and self-respect of teachers."



CLINTON ST. JOHN AND HIS FAMILY
Children feel the effects—at home and at school

In a pamphlet **Why Did They Fire My Teacher?** (P. O. Box 19284, L. A. 43; 10c) the Teachers Defense Committee recalled that two years ago several Board members were up on charges of grafting and fraud involving rich bus contracts, real-estate and insurance deals. Four were indicted by a grand jury; three were dropped from the Board because removal from office was the only penalty provided; before leaving they joined with remaining members in appointing their successors. The pamphlet asked:

> "What makes [the Board] suddenly so 'patriotic?' Is it possible that it has something to do with that old definition of patriotism that Samuel Johnson gave: 'The last refuge of the scoundrel?'"

"SUBVERSIVE" FORD FOUNDATION: At the time of the graft scandal the Board threw UNESCO out of school curriculums, rejected a $335,000 Ford Foundation subsidy for a teacher-training program, finding the Foundation (headed by former Studebaker pres. and Marshall Planner Paul G. Hoffman) subversive. In the world's fastest-growing city, where children are already feeling severe effects from school fund cuts, the Board kicked back for the benefit of the real estate lobby $102,000,000 voted by the citizens as an extra fund to deal with the emergency. Questionnaires circulated among teachers brought an 81% vote of "no confidence" in the Board.

In a preface to **Why Did They Fire My Teacher?** Dr. Robert Hutchins, former U. of Chicago chancellor now assoc. director of the Ford Foundation, writes of seven Dilworth victims in L. A.:

> "These teachers were not charged with being communists, or fellow travelers, or radicals. They were not charged with anything. . . . [They] were discharged for refusing to answer questions. The issue is, then, whether the Board of Education should have asked the questions. . . . [This] is an un-American invasion of [the teacher's] rights, and another step in the process of making the teachers of L.A. second class citizens."

"CALIF. ON TRIAL": Prof. Steinmetz, who had been in his job 22 years, has charged that the Luckel law, sponsored by the Assemblyman for Steinmetz' own district, is

> ". . . exactly the same 'anti-Steinmetz' bill of 1951 which Earl Warren vetoed then as a Bill of Attainder—and signed this year to secure McCarthyite support for his Supreme Court appointment. The Friends' Committee on Legislation newsletter said last August: 'The vindictiveness of the Luckel-Dilworth legislators is worthy of a gang of juvenile delinquents.'"

In a sober, literate statement before the Calif. State Board of Education Jan. 28, Steinmetz put his and the Dilworth cases in the framework of the whole threat involved to freedom of scholarship and hence to national security, and ended: "Really it is not I who am on trial here; it is the State of California." The Committee to Repeal the Dilworth Act charged that the "basic reason" for the firing of St. John was that he was "a leader in the fight for a living wage for teachers." Mrs. Fiona St. John, whose baby son and herself were both polio victims last year, proclaimed her pride in her husband's having

> ". . . the intelligence and the backbone to fight to maintain the privacy of our home and our rights as citizens."

St. John said:

> ". . . The business of putting teachers into mental strait jackets has gone too far. It must be stopped if our schools are to be free. . . . I stand accused of no crime, have nothing to hide. I am taking my stand. . . ."

"Entire profession intimidated"

We are already short 72,000 teachers; yet 60,000 of those we have leave the profession every year. . . . Their average salary is $3,400. . . . In Arkansas, more than half the teachers get less than $1,900 a year. To the burden of economics we are adding the ordeal of inquisition. The teachers of many subjects cannot teach without risking their jobs. Teachers are becoming second-class citizens. In many states, they are asked to take special oaths that they have not been disloyal. Why not ask them to sign oaths that they have not been robbers or prostitutes? . . . The entire teaching profession of the U.S. is now intimidated.

—Robert M. Hutchins in **Look**, Mar. 9

Employment

(Continued from page 1)

companies, expecting no immediate increases in orders, are dropping "hoarded" workers and getting the same or more output from the remainder.

At the same time, serious unemployment has developed in centers of heavy industry, first in farm equipment and non-ferrous metals, then in autos and some steel towns. Shipbuilding and railroad workers are also hard hit. Industrial centers like Detroit, Toledo, Kenosha, Wis., and Tacoma, Wash. are classified as areas of serious labor surplus by the Labor Dept., and many more should be. Altogether 69% of the nation's workers are in areas classified officially as having moderate or serious labor surpluses.

JOBLESS BENEFITS: The unemployment insurance system is far from being the "automatic stabilizer" claimed by Administration economists. At least 30% of all workers are wholly without insurance—notably farm, domestic and government workers and those in small establishments. Restrictive laws and operating policies weaken protection for the remainder. Because of disqualifications, exhaustion of benefits, and waiting periods, fewer than half of the **insured** unemployed are actually receiving benefits. And these get an average of only $23 weekly, under one-third the average weekly wage. Between 1945 and 1952 average benefits rose 18%, living costs 48%. As a result of "merit-rating" tax cuts to large employers, some state funds face bankruptcy after a year or two of heavy unemployment.

Negotiated health and welfare funds are being undermined by payroll declines and unemployment-induced retirements. This is dramatized by a recent 50% cut in pensions payable to retired hard-coal miners from the UMW fund.

FEELING THE PINCH: In fact, there is no protection against the return of apple-selling, breadlines and starvation should unemployment mount further and be prolonged. So far most unemployed feel the pinch in lesser ways. Many are losing cars and TV's to installment bankers. Millions are doing without minor luxuries, cutting diets.

In some places the situation is worse. Recent press reports told of mass hunger in the cotton area of Southeast Missouri and in Georgia and Alabama textile centers. Growing demands for release of federal food surpluses for relief indicate that many are not getting enough to eat in other places.

ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM: So far the Administration has tried to discount unemployment or deal with it by "stimulating" big business through various favors. It has promised to favor areas of acute unemployment in granting war contracts, an old Truman dodge which proved meaningless in 1949-50. The Administration shocked labor by coming out against an improvement in minimum wages, after Labor Secy. Mitchell has promised this. The excuse—it would prevent recovery!

"Dips, slumps or recessions do not develop into great depressions. I do not see them anywhere on the landscape at the present time."
HERBERT HOOVER, N. Y. Times, Feb. 28, 1954

The latest Eisenhower gimmick is to promise action if March shows no improvement. Unemployment usually declines in the spring with rising construction and farm activity, **regardless of the trend over the year as a whole.** So this formula provides an out for another six months' delay.

THE OUTLOOK: Whether or not the Administration can ride through, the critical election period on a seasonal pickup and stepped-up witch-hunting, a further rise in unemployment is likely by next winter. Owing to the rapid rise in labor productivity, industrial production must grow over 5% yearly merely to hold unemployment at a level.

Barring some new war provocation, there is no prospect of such a rise in 1954 over 1953. If production holds its own or picks up slightly later in the year, the further rise in unemployment will be moderate. But if late this year the present economic decline becomes severe, the mass unemployment of the 1930's will reappear shortly.

(Next week: What labor is doing about it.)

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W. E. B. DuBOIS REVIEWS

'The Great Tradition in English Literature'

By W. E. B. DuBois

IN these hectic days nobody takes up a book of 946 pages with the idea of reading it through. When I opened Annette Rubinstein's **The Great Tradition in English Literature** it was with the idea of glancing through it and then using it for occasional reference. Instead, I read every word of it, and as I lay it down I want my friends to know why they would better follow my example.

I confess to getting a new point of view or at least realizing what I should have known. Hitherto I have thought of literature as the artistic interpretation of life chiefly from the point of view of great thought and action. Annette Rubinstein has described my well-known authors from the point of view of what they knew and realized of the want and suffering of the mass of men. So that Shakespeare emerges not so much as a biographer of kings as one whose most famous king deplores his people's plight more than his daughter's meanness.

Poor naked wretches, where-soe'er you are
That bide the pelting of this pitiless storm.

BACON becomes one who "would have demolished Macaulay's smug dichotomy between the noble and unattainable objective of raising us above vulgar wants and the ignoble and attainable one of supplying our wants." Milton wrote "movingly of life because he loved it enough to fight for it." Bunyan relives for me as a tinker and not a mere religious fanatic. The people felt that their courage of resistance they "owed to him more than to any other man." Indeed, the author reminds us that "we must look for the major literature of the Restoration in the work of those for whose suppression it was invoked." Swift, "world-besotted traveller, he served human liberty"; Defoe, the first novelist came out of the depths; Fielding fought to abolish street gangs; and even Jane Austen "was protected from the Truth, but precious little of the Truth was protected from Jane Austen"; Burns and Blake showed "deep life-long sympathy for the working class of whom they were born and whose lives they shared." Especially appropriate to our day is the tale of the apostasy of Wordsworth and Coleridge after their first great words; the long fight of Hazlitt with poverty; Byron, Shelley and Keats, lord, gentleman and cockney, all were social revolutionists.

DR. ANNETTE RUBINSTEIN

But why more? Those English writers "who are above the struggle are also beside the point." "The Great Tradition in English Literature" came to culmination in the struggle of Browning, Dickens, George Eliot and Huxley for the uplift of the masses of men, and rightly culminated in Bernard Shaw. In other words—and this I hate to say—this is a book whose 946 pages you must read.

THE GREAT TRADITION IN ENGLISH LITERATURE from Shakespeare to Shaw, by Annette T. Rubinstein; Citadel Press, 224 4th Av., N. Y. C. $7.50.

Cause and effect

SALLISAW, OKLA.

I have been in the fight a long time. As a young man, I helped to organize the Populist Party; my father had a major part in that work. We later became Free Silver Democrats, and still later Socialists. During the Great Depression, I became a New Deal Democrat. I am still working for the principles of New Deal democracy. It was when the Democratic Party lost the spirit of the New Deal that it lost the spirit of progress and of true democracy. Without these it naturally went down into defeat.

Let the leaders of the Democratic Party be realistic. They must either get back into the spirit of the New Deal or go down into defeat in future elections. Political defeats do not just happen; they are the result of defective leadership. Political events are governed by the same laws as other historical events. Get right and win. Stay wrong and lose. P. A. Oliver

CALENDAR

Los Angeles

24th Dist. of I. P. P. Presents Repeat Performance — 2nd Annual **CANDLELIGHT CABARET** — dance to music by John "Streamline" Ewing. Sat., March 20, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Zodiac Room, Cosmopolitan Hotel, 360 S. Westlake Av. Don: $1.

ALVAH BESSIE will speak on "The Government's Fifth Attack on Harry Bridges," at **UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**, 2936 W. 8th St. Sun., Mar. 14, 1:30 p.m.

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Books & Publications

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